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The Temptations (African American Achievers)



Synopsis

The Temptations--Eddie Kendricks, Paul Williams, Otis Williams, Melvin Franklin, and David Ruffin--met the challenge by making themselves the best in the business. They perfected their vocal technique and used costume and dance to create a sexy, elegant stage presence. Their hard work paid off, but success had a price of its own. Drug abuse and arrogance destroyed friendships and forced personnel changes. The Temptations also struggled to keep up with changing musical tastes. These setbacks proved to be temporary, however, in a triumphant career that has spanned more than 30 years.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Grade 6 Up?While chronicling the development of the top-selling musical group, Cox also sheds light on the history of Motown records and the company's influence on the careers of many African-American musicians in the '60s. In a basically conversational though not consistently objective tone, the author explains how the group got together and stresses the struggles, frustrations, and discipline involved in reaching stardom. He also talks about the group's decline caused by drug and ego problems. Despite gradual change in performers, however, the group managed to continue and become significant in the history of recent popular music. A good selection where there is a demand for such information.?Renee Steinberg, Fieldstone Middle School, Montvale, NJCopyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

.."this lively analysis offers an informative, inspiring account of the cultural blossoming of New York City's Harlem in 1920s...."

Ever since the movie "The Temptations" came out, I was hooked on them. I've liked them before but not how I am now. The book was excellent, I have a clear idea of how everything started and how they were personally. They were a group that was meant to be. The 5 guys that played the Temptations in the movie were Phenomenal, they moved, sung & had sex appeal just like the original temptations. I enjoyed the movie as well as the book. I couldnt put it down.!!

For a book that is geared towards juvenile readers, this book about the Temptations is well written, candid and refreshing. Adults who are fans of the group will also appreciate it, so don't let the fact that it's a book for kids discourage you from sitting down and reading it. For a long time, the only book you could get solely on the topic of the Temptations was the Otis Williams'-penned book, which I found to be somewhat biased. It was Otis' book on which the popular miniseries about this group was based, so if you were dissatisfied with that book AND the movie, read this book instead. Ted Cox's offering about this Motown supergroup was far more impartial, and therefore you get a better scope of just what was going on in the group from all sides instead of from just one perspective. This book also has more detail about the professional lives of David Ruffin, Eddie Kendrick, and Dennis Edwards in the years after they left the Tempts. Highly recommended, plus great photos!

A good book about the origin and history of one of the greatest R&B groups to ever exist. However, the book is less than 100 pages, so it lacks the depth I was hoping for.

good

Very interesting reading but it did not give me the indepth insight that I was looking for. I read most of this book over the internet. But still interesting.

great

I am a real Temptations fan; and I read this book twice. It is wonderful!!!

I think I like the albums best so my review will be about old school albums

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